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CANADA-ASEAN FORUM

JAKARTA, INDONESIA--The Honourable James Kelleher, Minister for International Trade, announced the organization of a Canada-ASEAN Forum to take place in British Columbia in September 1986. Mr. Kelleher made this announcement during his visit to Indonesia as that country is Canada's official contact point in its private sector relationship with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). The ASEAN is composed of Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines, and Brunei.

Canada and the ASEAN are committed to closer ties between their respective business leaders and commercial associations. The seminar will provide an opportunity for dialogue on the scope for co-operation between Canadian and Southeast Asian companies, especially through joint ventures.

Participants will include senior Canadian businessmen and private sector representatives from the countries of the ASEAN. The seminar portion of the program will take place at the Empress Hotel in Victoria on September 10, 11, and 12. The ASEAN participants will also have an opportunity to visit EXPO '86 in Vancouver on the weekend of September 13 and 14. Following the World's Fair, representatives of the ASEAN nations will pursue more individual programs focussing on particular sectors - such as oil and gas development, mineral exploration or telecommunications - in other Canadian centres.

The Canadian organizers emphasize that such exchanges as the Canada-ASEAN Forum are indicative of Canada's commitment to the continued development of its economic relationship with the ASEAN.

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